

OUT OF THE DEPTHS

THE appalling revelation of the horrors of Central Germany has smitten the conscience of the world more than any human evil known to history. While no nation's story is free from stains of cruelty, it remains only too true that no nation claiming to be civilised has ever, in all the annals of horror, countenanced a Buchenwald, a Belsen, or a Dachau. "They mark the lowest point of degradation," said the inspecting MPs, "to which humanity has yet descended."

These are strong words, confirmed in the minds of any who doubt by the careful and factual evidence gathered by those who have visited the camps where for ten years Nazi Germany has practised a methodical cruelty which not only debases Germany but demeans the stature of the whole human race.

This visitation of horrors involves us all in its ultimate tragedy. The human race, divided into nations, and separated by language and culture, is in its fundamental creation one family. The final, desolate tragedies which afflict men anywhere are shared by all men, as are the glories of humanity's achievements. While we do not share the Germans' guilt for this abyss of evil, we do share the shame which they have brought to the human race.

WE all knew that we were struggling against evil things; but the incarnate evil of the concentration camps only deepens our abiding belief that in destroying Nazism mankind has rid itself of a monstrous growth.

These new black depths to which men can sink are a reminder that evil is still a powerful force in human life. Pleasing philosophies of men getting better and better are challenged by them; and the truth to be faced is that there are mighty opposites in the human heart; for good or evil, and that the good needs unflinching and fostering care if it is to live and flourish. As the dark age of unredeemed cruelty draws to a close, let us

remember that the possibility of its recurrence can never be entirely dismissed unless we actively pursue the good on a world scale as well as in our individual lives.

Is it too much to hope that the end of this new dark age will be followed by a new age of faith and hope? The darkest Middle Ages were the forerunners of a more splendid era when Europe found her soul and the genius of man was lit by all the spacious triumphs of his mind and spirit. No one cares to prophesy about the future, but we may be sure that the darkness of our recent days will act as a compulsive power towards a new age of light.

Man is naturally a child of the light rather than the darkness, and finds his soul only in an ever upward striving. Tennyson debates this great issue all through In Memoriam:

*I stretch lame hands of faith, and grope,
And gather dust and chaff, and call
To what I feel is Lord of all,
And faintly trust the larger hope.*

Man has won many victories. He has triumphed over many fell diseases. He has won a large measure of control over elemental nature. He has invented machines which annihilate distance and bring the world's peoples together. But he has yet to subordinate all his triumphs to good ends, he has yet to conquer and subdue his own tendencies to evil.

MAN emerges from a dark age with a new awareness of his capacity for sinking into depths of depravity or of rising to great heights of nobility. He now has the opportunity to march forward into a new age of faith and hope. We cannot expect to reach it quickly or easily, but we can with all our hearts believe it to be possible because of our unshakable belief in the ultimate triumph of good over evil.

A SOCIAL OCCASION IN AFRICA Our Lighthouses Shine Again

WOMEN'S Institutes have long been popular in British villages. They are now being started in African villages.

Mrs Hope Hay, of the London Missionary Society, has been describing one institute which she supervises in the copper-mining belt of Central Africa.

The members are all wives of the miners who work in the deep underground shafts of the huge mines. Bringing their own knitting or sewing, they arrive as early as 7.30 and at nine o'clock have a class for reading and writing in the vernacular. The first words they learn are words about home life and about mothers and their children.

Many of the women are very ignorant and rough and crude, but they are eager to learn. Tea is made at ten, and some hopefully bring saucepans and washing-up bowls. They always bring bread to dip in the tea, believing that the tea otherwise simply "burns and goes straight through." During tea an English class is held in the "direct method" of teaching, linking each word with an appropriate action. The women like to learn English words because their husbands in the mines pick up English phrases.

Talks are given on customs of women in other parts of the world. There is country dance,

folk singing, and a good choir is developing in this institute. Then the women "play shop," and by this method learn how to count.

Perhaps the most popular of all events is the story-telling, when in true African dramatic style a Bible story is acted. "The entire company," says Mrs Hay, "will move out on the grass, and there, among the trees and ant-hills, bring the story to life. It is real acting and art in one of its truest, finest forms. There are no previously prepared properties, but the simple use of anything handy. One day a complete cradle was fashioned on the spot for the infant Moses out of leaves and branches, all as part of the scene. There is no effort or desire to create an impression on others. The audience, apart from their usefulness in handing over properties at the right time, or in coming in themselves if a crowd is needed, or a few more pigs for the Prodigal Son's companions, might never exist so far as the actors are concerned. Nothing is incongruous; everything sincere, reverent, tragic, gay, or uproarious, as the story demands. It seems the actors are not acting at all, but for a few unconquerable moments living another life."

So Africa's women live and learn as do their white sisters.

ONCE more the lighthouses round our coasts are flashing their guiding beams out to sea after five years of blackout. Before the war there were 148 big lighthouses round the coasts of Britain and 44 lightships. Before the lightship service can resume its humane work, however, it will be necessary to build new vessels to replace some of those treacherously sunk by the enemy.

At the beginning of the last century there were only 25 lighthouses and six lightships round England's coasts. The first lighthouse in Britain was one built by the Romans on the cliffs of Dover. They called it a pharos—the name of the great lighthouse built at Alexandria in the third century B.C.

The Roman beacon consisted of a large elevated brazier in which a fire was kept burning at night, and this was the form of all lighthouses for many centuries afterwards. They were expensive affairs, often burning 400 tons of coal a year. The last coal-burning lighthouse in Britain went out of use in 1822, but one was flaming in the Baltic until 1846.

CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER

EVERY TUESDAY 3d

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No 1367

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE



Architect of Victory

Now that the war in Europe is ended all eyes will turn to the struggle against the Japanese. Here is a portrait of Lord Louis Mountbatten, Supreme Allied Commander in South-East Asia.

MONTY'S MESSAGE TO YOUTH

BRITAIN'S victorious Field-Marshal made an inspiring call to the youth of the British Commonwealth in a speech in London recently. He was speaking at the Diamond Jubilee meeting of the Gordon Boys' School, the school founded as a national memorial to General Gordon, of which he is vice-president. The meeting was held at the Mansion House, where a large crowd had greeted Monty's arrival with cheers, and boys from the school, wearing the Gordon tartan, formed a guard of honour.

Field-Marshal Montgomery spoke of the hard and difficult problems that lie ahead of us after the immense destruction that has been done.

"Where are we to find the men to face up to these problems?" he asked, and went on: "I maintain that it is to our British youth we must look; to the youth of the Empire. We older people are passing on and others will have to do the work, and they cannot do it unless they are trained."

"It is my experience as a soldier that as a boy is trained, so he will do when he comes to man's estate. It is also my experience that when you get crime in the Army and analyse the cause of it you generally find that it lies in unhappy home surroundings. It is for that reason that I am interested in what I can do for the training of the boys."

Cressida Goes to War

WHEN he was stationed near Folkestone in 1942, Lieut. G. S. Summers, of the Sherwood Foresters, found a young kestrel with a broken wing. He took it to his billet and named it Cressida. When he went overseas Lieut. Summers took the bird with him. Cressida was with her owner in Tunisia, where both were wounded and captured on

the same day. They were in hospital together, and even tried to escape from a prison camp.

Now Lieut. Summers is home again—with Cressida. He says the Germans thought he was "just one of those mad Englishmen," and allowed him to take care of his pet. He adds that if he goes to the Far East he will try to take Cressida with him.

THE ROAD HOME

THE great journey back to civilian life, of which most of our five million Service men and women have been dreaming for the past strenuous years, is to begin on June 18.

Mr Bevin, Minister of Labour, outlined recently in Parliament its first stages, and he was listened to with earnest attention and sympathy by members of all parties; for all of us are concerned that the men and women who have given years of their lives to the most righteous Cause this country ever fought for should not have the hardship of unemployment added to their sacrifice. Mr Bevin hoped that by the end of this year about 750,000 men and women will have been released from the Forces. They will be released in two classes.

Class A will consist of those who will be discharged—if they so wish—by reason of their age and length of service in this war. The first eleven groups of Class A will be discharged between June 18 and the end of August.

Class B are those men and women who will be transferred voluntarily to industry because of their qualifications for some work of national importance; thus in this class about 60,000, mostly men skilled in the building trade, will be released in the first year of demobilisation.

The Class A men will receive eight weeks' leave with full pay and ration allowance, but this will not preclude them from taking civilian jobs at once if they so desire.

Our Charter For Peace

OUR Minister of Reconstruction, Lord Woolton, is a man of imagination and vision. This he well showed when, installed as Chancellor of Manchester University, he outlined his "charter for Britain at peace."

Lord Woolton said that the universities had given us knowledge, and that the challenge of the day was to use it for the service of man so that life might be more abundant.

He went on to say that he saw a new Britain that cared more than we thought possible before

There will be many, however, who will need assistance in finding suitable employment, and for these the Government hopes to have open by June 1 in the main towns 380 Resettlement Advice Offices. There will also be many who will find that the long gap of their service years has made them "rusty" at any kind of civilian job: for these the Ministry of Labour has worked out schemes of training with about 30 different industries, and arrangements are being made for similar training with 30 other industries. By this means the men will receive six months' training, for which the Government will pay.

Mr Bevin pointed out that most of the 750,000 to be released will come from the Army, because the Navy and R.A.F. have special duties still to carry out in the Japanese war. No more women will be called up for National Service, he said, and he also hoped it would not be necessary to call up any more "Bevin boys," of whom 20,000 have worked in the mines.

Of Mr Bevin's deep sincerity and complete determination to do all that is humanly possible for our returning Service men and women there is no doubt, and the nation will hope and pray that all his efforts will prove successful in this vital matter.

the war for the health of the young, for development of the capacity of the normal as well as the very clever child, a society that resolved to share to the full in the protection of the individual from the evils of misfortune that come from the mischance of ill-health or unemployment, and a society that was resolved to use all the powers of government and finance for the purpose of raising the standard of our common life and for our fuller enjoyment of the beauties of life and the art of living.

NEW WAR MEDALS

UNTIL recently the only medals awarded for service in this war—apart from decorations given for individual bravery—were the 1939-43 Star and the Africa Star. Now the good news comes that the King has created seven new medals.

Our intrepid merchant seamen, whose courage has kept the United Nations' armies in the field, are all to receive recognition, and so are the crews of our bombers and fighters who broke the German war machine.

Merrie London Again

THE London parks are to don a mantle of gaiety to celebrate victory and to brighten the leisure hours of those citizens who will still find themselves unable to go far afield.

The L.C.C. have decided to spend £29,000 on a programme of entertainment in its parks.

These will be gala days for Londoners, and the spirit of carnival will reign over their green haunts. There will be a circus, there will be entertain-

The new medals are the Atlantic Star, the Air Crew Europe Star, the Pacific Star, the Burma Star, the Italy Star for all who fought there, and the France and Germany Star for all who served in the last great battles from D Day onwards.

All the men and women who have not actually taken part in the fighting but have served overseas, or have carried out certain work in the United Kingdom, normally for three years, will receive a new Defence Medal.

ments of all kinds for children of all ages; there will be swimming, athletics, and other sporting events; there will be performances of plays; and there will be all the fun of the fair.

Not the least of the coming attractions will be the lunchtime band concerts—a pleasure to be enjoyed for a brief while by the worker munching his sandwich.

Truly, happy days are here again for Londoners after their long ordeal.

The King Thanks the Nation

THE Royal Gallery in the Palace of Westminster was the scene of an historic occasion when both Houses of Parliament presented to King George loyal addresses of congratulation on the end of the European War.

Thanking the Lords and Commons for their addresses the King, who was accompanied by Queen Elizabeth and the two Princesses, paid a generous tribute to the men and women of our Armed Forces; to the Merchant Navy; and to the Forces of the Empire and Commonwealth and India, and of our powerful Allies.

The Home Front

Then His Majesty spoke of the people at home who bore unflinchingly the burden and dangers of war, carrying on their daily tasks in field, factory, mine, office, workshop, and on the lines of transport. He continued:

"Our gratitude goes out to all, and it would be unfitting to single out one type of service when all have played their part."

"But I must specially mention the women of this country, who by their ready response to the calls of industry and the fighting services have added so greatly to the weight of our impact on the enemy. Let us remember, too, the housewives of this country; so many of whom took into their homes mothers and children from the bombed cities and workers uprooted by the war."

The King offered his sympathy and that of the Queen to those whom the war has stricken with the loss of their nearest and dearest, and mentioned the loss of his own brother, the Duke of Kent, on active service.

King George spoke of how much all of us in this island have been strengthened and cheered by the staunch and valiant support of the peoples of the British Commonwealth and Empire overseas. And he went on:

"We rejoice to acknowledge, and we shall never forget, the aid so freely and promptly given by the United States, and the brotherhood of our armed forces serving together in various theatres under combined commands. The splendid victories of the Soviet Union and the courage of all those other Allies who suffered and fought with us in our common struggle against aggression will ever be recorded in our hearts and in our history."

The Tasks Ahead

Then, looking ahead, His Majesty spoke of the difficulties which lie before us, and which must be overcome, in the rebuilding of Europe; and of the effort required at home to restore and improve the standard of living.

"The Grand Alliance of the United Nations which has brought us victory," declared His Majesty, "can and must continue, to ensure that the peace of the world is not again outraged and destroyed. The purposes for which the United Nations have been linked in war do not end in victory. Mankind looks forward to a time when all nations, under God's good providence, will be able to work together in mutual confidence for these exalted aims."

WORLD NEWS REEL

To meet Great Britain's essential food requests 500 tons of honey has been asked for from the beekeepers of New Zealand.

The Government of India have agreed to grant the sum of £6,000,000 to assist the work of UNRRA.

The Washington Post Office department announces that a special memorial stamp will shortly be issued in honour of President Roosevelt, for many years regarded as the leading stamp collector in America.

A new daily newspaper is being published in Berlin by the Russian authorities; it is called Taegliche Rundschau—Daily Review.

A big ocean-going U-boat, trying to reach Japan with three German Luftwaffe generals and valuable Luftwaffe plans and equipment on board, was captured recently off Newfoundland.

As a result of Allied air raids on Nagoya, centre of the Japanese aircraft industry, 15 square miles of the city is in ruins.

MACHINE-GUN ammunition for the Far East is being sent in hermetically-sealed tin cans so that it shall not be damaged by climatic conditions.

R.A.F. planes have flown 100,000 grey mullet to Greece as part of an UNRRA scheme for restocking Greek lakes with fish.

Works of art stolen by Goering and found by the Allies in an Austrian salt mine include the famous Ghent Altar piece, and many priceless paintings by Rembrandt, Rubens, Leonardo da Vinci, Titian, Vandyck, Raphael, Breughel, Goya, and Michael Angelo.

The coalmines of the Donbas in Russia, flooded by the Germans, are now yielding nearly 40 per cent of their pre-war output.

In the last few days of the war in Europe 1,060,000 Germans, including 91 generals, surrendered to the Russians.

The Russians have already sown twenty million more acres of land this year than last.

CAIRO has recently experienced weather freaks in the form of tropical thunderstorms in May which caused damaging floods.

The Chinese have captured the Treaty port of Foochow and have advanced several miles beyond.

Field-Marshal Montgomery is to be Commander-in-Chief of the British Forces in Germany, and British member of the Allied Control Council.

South Africa's war expenditure up to April 30 last was over £440,000,000.

In Copenhagen we captured some 135 naval vessels and 600,000 tons of merchant shipping.

HOME NEWS REEL

DETAILS supplied by 36,443 registered builders show that 63,976 youths are in training in their establishments.

Business executives co-operating with the Ministry of Labour will give Luton school children talks on local industry.

Lady Pigott-Brown has presented to the Nation 70 acres near the summit of Leith Hill in Surrey to be added to the rest of land held there by the National Trust.

The British motor-cycle industry recently completed their 400,000th motor-cycle for the Services.

Owing to the April frosts the British fruit crop will be below average, although fruit will be on the market earlier than usual.

The most precious memory of Mr J. Tennant, of Scarborough, who has just passed on at the age of 105, was that of meeting in his youth the noble Dr Livingstone.

In preparation for the return of more cars to the roads, Scotland Yard traffic experts held a conference with Sir Philip Game recently, to discuss a revised traffic control system for London.

A ten-million-pounds wind tunnel for testing aeroplanes, and a new super air liner costing one million pounds, are part of the Government's plans for giving Britain a leading position in the air after the war.

For his work in connection with penicillin, Professor Sir H. Florey will receive the 1945 Lister Medal, which is awarded for distinguished contributions to medical science.

LIEUTENANT WILLIAM WESTON, Green Howards, is the second VC from Ulverston, Lancashire. The award was made posthumously for capturing a Japanese bunker in Burma by taking the pin out of a grenade while he was lying wounded and killing most of the Japanese as well as himself.

Volunteer week-end workers on the L.M.S. Railway repaired 2,859,659 wagons during the war.

A cabinet-maker of Trowbridge has built an electric organ in two years from materials taken from salvage dumps.

The Revd. G. Campbell Morgan, famous Congregationalist preacher, lecturer and writer, has passed on at the age of 81.

YOUTH NEWS REEL

REMOVING only his boots, 13-year-old Kenneth Neale, of the 1st Woking Scout Group, dived into the River Wey at Woking near Trigg's Lock to the rescue of a small boy who had fallen into the river. Kenneth has been awarded the Scout Gilt Cross.

A spectacular feat of some French Scouts during the German occupation has just come to light. The Scouts discovered that the Nazis intended to seize 40 Jewish children and deport them to Poland; so five Scouts raced ahead of the Germans to the convent where the children were lodged and took them to a safer hiding-place. When the Germans

arrived they found 40 beds containing aged candidates for the Lyons almshouse.

The Boy Scouts of America are helping to collect 150 million lbs of serviceable clothing, to be sent to the destitute people of the liberated countries.

There are over one million Scouts and nearly half-a-million Wolf Cubs in the United States of America.

The Boys Brigade Diploma for Gallant Conduct has been awarded to Thomas Young of the 1st Washington (Durham) Company for his presence of mind in extinguishing with a rug flames which enveloped his sister when her nightdress caught fire.

The Story of Flensburg

It was strange that Hitler's self-appointed successor, the crafty and conceited Admiral Doenitz, of U-boat infamy, should have chosen Flensburg, the pretty, thriving seaport on the east coast of Schleswig-Holstein, for the "capital" of his "Government." For it is only since 1864 that this town has been German at all.

Until then it was Danish Flensburg, capital of the Danish province of Sleswick, and it still retains the marks of its long and fine Danish history in architecture, language, and traditions. Perhaps if we had stepped in with a firm hand in 1864, and warned Prussia and Austria to

leave Sleswick alone, we might have prevented them from taking it and fighting each other two years later.

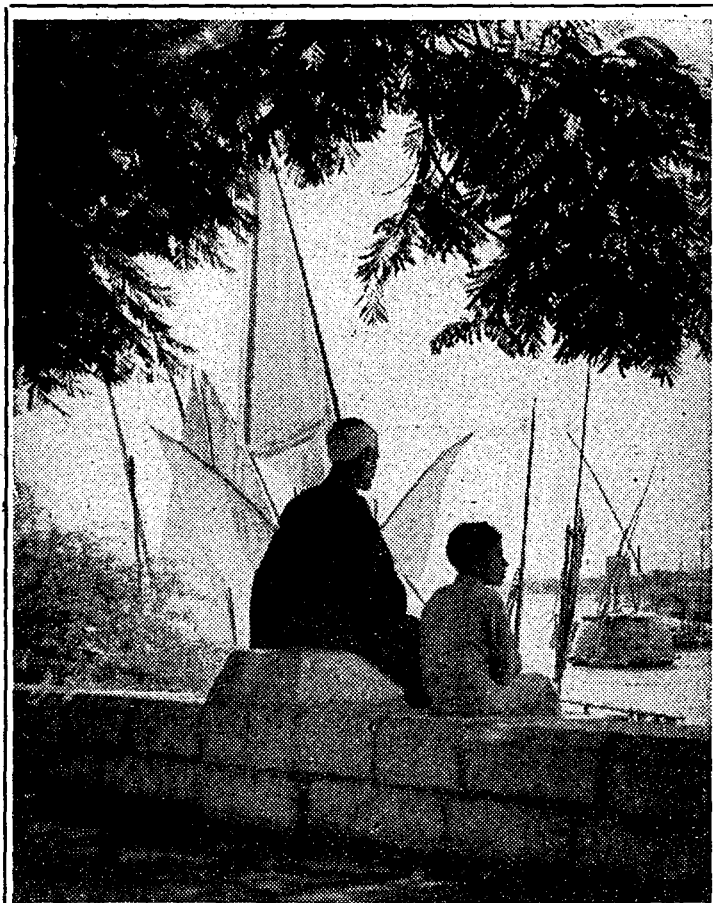
But the Danish Government of those days was not very wise. Despite the earlier war of 1848, King Frederick VII of Denmark had pursued a policy of forcible denationalisation of the German population of the two duchies, which was considerable, and when he died in 1863 the crisis found his successor with few friends.

Now perhaps Sleswick may be offered a new future of independence, under Danish or international protection. Doenitz chose his capital prematurely.

THE MAIL GOT THROUGH

A MAIL-VAN driver, C. W. Rees, who drives between Pembroke and Angle, a village some ten miles along the shore of Milford Haven, was recently awarded £5 for courage, devotion to duty, and endurance.

During a heavy snow blizzard, at the end of last January, he found the roads blocked by drifts 15 feet deep, so he took a small boat and rowed the mails back to Pembroke, enduring a five hours' struggle against heavy seas which nearly swamped him. Next morning he rowed his boat to Angle, delivering his mails complete.



Beside the Nile

In the noonday heat of Cairo this old Egyptian and his grandson spend a quiet hour watching the heavily-laden barges furl their lateen sails. This Nile sailing and rowing boat is called a dahabiyeh.

PARLIAMENT'S PATHFINDER

THE Pathfinder Force—that triumph of enterprise, skill, and courage which blazed the trail for our bombers—is now a matter of history, and its deeds will loom large in the annals of the Second World War. It was created by Air Vice-Marshal D. C. T. Bennett, the youngest man of his rank in the R.A.F., who is now only 34.

Air Vice-Marshal Bennett has other aims than pathfinding in the air. He is to help in blazing the paths of peace, for he has been returned unopposed as Member of Parliament for Middlesbrough West.

It is good that the House of Commons should have so valiant and enterprising a man to assist in guiding our destinies.

A LINK WITH HOME

CORPORAL J. WOODS, of Dover, has written home describing a find which has puzzled him. Sight-seeing in Akyab, Burma, he went into a pagoda and was amazed to find among its showpieces a chromium plate on which was engraved the word Dover. He was unable to obtain any explanation of the presence of the plate in far-away Akyab.

BOOKS FOR AFRICAN CHILDREN

A CORRESPONDENT writing in The Times gives news of a movement to provide more books for West African children.

It appears that a children's library has been started at Lagos, thanks to the British Council, the Nigerian Education Department, and the Public Relations Office; and that a gift of books has been made to it by the girls of Howells County School at Llandaff, South Wales.

World peace and prosperity depend, in part, upon the welfare of native communities in our Colonies, and practical help for this cause in the shape of further gifts of children's books will be gratefully received by the British Council Representative, P.O. Box 153, Lagos, Nigeria.

A Very Kind Neighbour

IN a by-street in a London suburb which has had its full share of the blitzes, a lady kept a little general store, serving her customers faithfully and well throughout the war. But she had determined to save up a great peace-treat for herself.

By considerable self-denial she put by the ingredients for a substantial quantity of ice-cream, and when it was plain that the news of the German surrender

might be announced "any minute," she made it.

And on V.E. Day every child in her street had a dish of ice-cream, free of charge.

These little ones are not likely to forget that day, or the smile on the face of the kind neighbour who could think of no greater pleasure for herself than to celebrate the end of the war in Europe by giving such unexpected pleasure to others.

AN ANCIENT RIGHT

THE abolition of a 13th-century Royal Charter fair at Park Road, Cheam, Surrey, was prevented for the sixth time by Mr Thompson of Boxhill, Surrey, when he took up his stand there on May 15 with a dart-stall and an ice-cream van.

According to the Charter at least one stall must be erected there annually on May 15. Otherwise Cheam automatically loses its right to a fair.

HOME AGAIN

THOSE grand Czech fighter pilots who took the air with the R.A.F. and helped to defeat the Luftwaffe have returned to their own dear country, from which they have been absent for more than six years. Their British comrades-in-arms gave these gallant warriors a splendid send-off when, from an airfield in Britain, they took the air in their Spitfires to fly back to Czechoslovakia.

In a farewell message, Air Vice-Marshal Cole-Hamilton thanked these homebound pilots for what they had done in the cause of freedom.

It must have been a thrilling moment when these men touched their native soil again. Czechoslovakia has tremendous tasks ahead of her, but she will rise again, and rapidly. And those brave sons who helped to win the Battle of Britain will play a major part in their country's recovery—of that we are sure.

Young Blacksmiths Wanted

THE gradual passing of the horse from Britain's agricultural scene is sad, as the C.N. pointed out some weeks ago, but that shoeing-smiths should be dying out much faster than the horses is an alarming state of affairs.

It has been noted recently that in rural areas few of the younger men have been trained to take the place of the older generation of blacksmiths who knew how to shoe a horse. The young blacksmiths of today are handier at tinkering with a car or a wireless set than at taking old Dobbin's hair-fringed hoof between their knees. Often nowadays horses have to be taken long distances in lorries to find a blacksmith.

To remedy this the Rural Industries Association, the Agricultural Association, and the Agricultural Committee of Norfolk have worked out a joint scheme for the training of apprentices in horse-shoeing as well as in all other branches of the blacksmith's craft. Master blacksmiths will be paid 10s a week for the first two years and 7s 6d a week for the third year of the training. Pocket money will also be given to the apprentices during their second and third years. A similar scheme is being adopted in Suffolk.

It is an excellent plan, for the art of shoeing a horse is one that will be needed for many years to come, and without it no blacksmith is master of his trade.

ON TOP OF THE SCIENTIFIC WORLD

BEFORE the war we relied very much on Germany for our scientific instruments. But the war compelled us to turn to our own resources in this respect; and now the British scientific instrument industry turns out £30,000,000 worth of goods yearly and employs between 50,000 and 60,000 people.

This was stated the other day by Lord Sempill at a meeting of the Scientific Instrument Manufacturers' Association of Great Britain. Lord Sempill pleaded for the maintenance of this great wartime enterprise through the years ahead, and for more vigorous co-operation from the Government to that end.

Professor Heilbron, scientific adviser to the Ministry of Production, said that we needed a Ministry of Science to ensure the continuance of our present position in that field.

Through the dire necessities of war we have reached this eminent position. It would be a thousand pities if we were to lose it.

RANGOON IN THE FAMILY

ONE of the queerest coincidences of the war was when a British officer commanded an operation at the same place and of the same nature as one in which his father had taken part 93 years earlier. It was an amphibious attack on Rangoon, in Burma.

Lieutenant-General Sir Philip Christison was the officer of this war, and he commanded the 15th Indian Corps which recently landed on both sides of the Rangoon river. In the Burma war of 1852-53 Sir Philip's father was a doctor in the Indian Army, and was with the Forces which were carried up the same river by British warships and landed and captured Rangoon.

Sir Philip Christison's father was born in 1828, and died in his 90th year in 1918.

A VILLAGE RUNNING GROUND

AN old custom was revived when races and sports to celebrate V.E. Day were held on a meadow known as the Running Ground at Old Wives Lees, Kent.

Until about a hundred years ago this ground was used for an annual race between young men and maidens of the hamlet for a prize left for that purpose by Sir Dudley Digges in the seventeenth century. These races were always held in May. This year, although the Digges bequest was no longer available, the young people raced in the meadow once more.

FOR THE NATURE-LOVER

Exploring England, by Charles S. Bayne (Collins, 6s.).

OF the making of Nature books there is no end, and we can all rejoice in the fact when such a book as this comes our way.

As the author points out, it is not necessary to go to the ends of the earth to taste the full joys of exploration, and his aim here is to send the Nature-lover forth better armed for the great adventure of exploring England.

He gives many hints that make for a better perception of what may be seen during a ramble, and reveals many secrets of life in the fields and hedgerows, in the woods and streams, on the moors and marshes, by the wayside and the shore, in the garden and on the farm.

This is a book which will delight every observant boy and girl keen to know more of the natural life of his own land, and it is made all the more delightful by masterly drawings by C. F. Tunncliffe and fine photographs.

UNITED KENTISH BRITONS

WHILE he was clearing rubbish from a disused stable at Selling, Kent, the owner found a document which appears to be the only remaining trace of an early sickness and benefit club. It was a certificate of membership of the United Kentish Britons, and was dated 1823. The motto of this society was: Comfort for the sick. Respect for the dead.

Famous Home of Cricket

KENNINGTON OVAL, home of the Surrey County Cricket Club, is known to cricket lovers throughout the world.

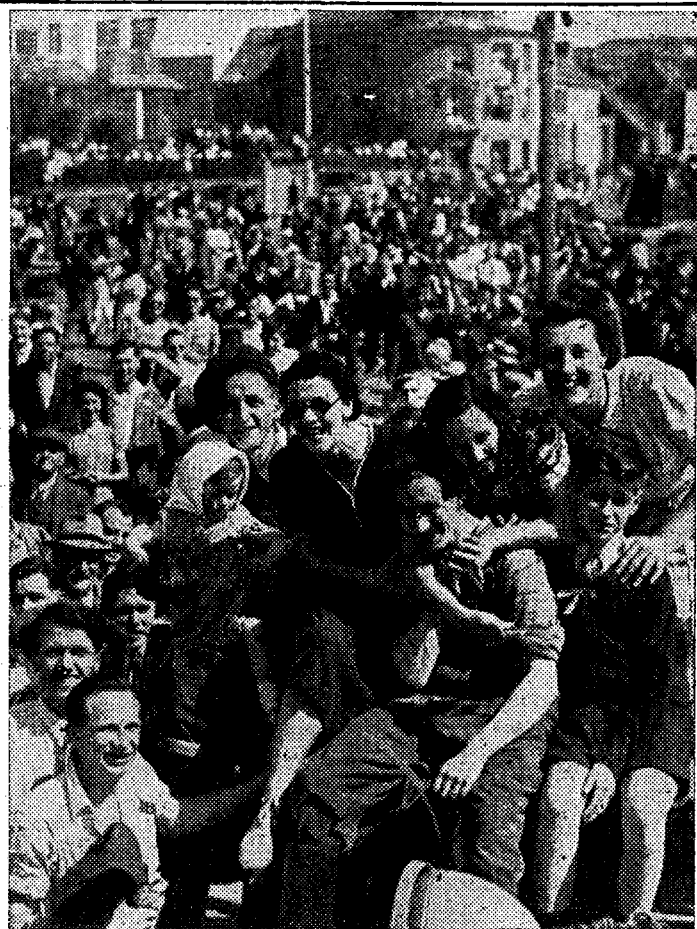
It was just over a hundred years ago that a cricket match was first played there, the match being between two elevens of the Montpelier Club. The Surrey Club took over a lease later.

The Oval, scene of many a

historic game and of so many breath-taking Test Matches, has been in the wars and is now in need of considerable repair; and not before the summer of 1946 are the Surrey cricketers likely to delight again their legions of ardent supporters on that oasis in South London where Tom Hayward, Jack Hobbs, and many others, delighted them in days gone by.

June 2, 1945

The Children



Deliverance Day

It is the happiest day of their lives for these brave Channel Islanders, as they welcome the British soldiers freeing them after five years of oppression.

A WISE WOMAN AT SAN FRANCISCO

A GREY-HAIRED, eagle-faced woman sits among the U.S. delegates at the San Francisco Conference. She is Dr Virginia Gildersleeve, and is America's foremost woman educationist.

Dr Gildersleeve is Dean of the Barnard College of Columbia University, one of the most famous of America's women's colleges, and 20,000 students have been influenced by her during the past 30 years. She is accustomed to being the only woman representative in predominantly male organisations. In 1935, for instance, Governor Lehman, of New York State, appointed her to be a member of the Judicial Council of New York State. Her calm, judicial mind has been of enormous value on that important body.

Her interest in foreign affairs began after the last war, when to her New York college she began bringing students from foreign

countries. In return each year her students at Barnard collected enough money to send their senior students for study abroad. France made her an officer of public instruction, and across the Atlantic Dr Gildersleeve came on many visits.

She has great affection for and interest in England. As professor of English Literature she wrote a book on the Elizabethan drama and was a frequent visitor to Stratford Shakespeare Festivals.

Education, Dr Gildersleeve believes, is going to play an enormous part in the betterment of relations between the peoples. She said recently: "The only permanent solution, it seems to me, must come through education. Men and women, with their political passions frequently based on ignorance and prejudice, will have to realise the true nature of these problems if there is to be any hope of a solution."

Ontario Wants More Britons

THE most populous of Canada's Provinces, Ontario, has now nearly 4,000,000 inhabitants. It also has a bustling and determined Premier, Colonel G. A. Drew, who maintains that this figure could become 25,000,000 without overcrowding.

He wants those fresh millions to stream in without delay, and the more Great Britain contributes to the stream, the better he will be pleased. Ontario has boundless resources alike in agriculture, mining, and industrial production. Man-power is her only lack.

From now on the Governments of the Province and the Dominion are likely to foster a more

vigorous and helpful policy of migration than ever before. Millions of Britons have seen for themselves what grand fellows these young Canadian fighting-men are. A land which can breed such men, and send them three thousand miles across the ocean to help to save the world's freedom, is a land worth living in, and will surely attract immense numbers of our own young people in the near future.

The annihilation of distance through air development will no doubt help to bind the Mother Country and her great Dominion closer together and quicken the flow of migration. Colonel Drew will continue to point the way.

A Venture of Faith

WHAT the Archbishop of Canterbury, speaking in Convocation recently described as a "venture of faith" has taken place in India where the four southern dioceses of the Anglican Church in India (the Church of India, Burma, and Ceylon) have by large majorities voted to enter a new united South India Church. These dioceses have thus declared their willingness to join up with the Methodist Church in South India and with the South India United Church (in which the Congregationalists and Presbyterians are already joined).

In so doing these dioceses will for the time being sever their connection with the Church of England, and enter into a new Indian Church which, if union finally comes about, will be one of the great churches of Christendom.

Separation and Unity

The Archbishop said: "It is separation accepted in the belief and hope that by it the cause of ultimate unity will be served. The Church of England in no wise compromises its own standards and, while preserving them, regards with sympathy and hope the venture of faith on which, if it be so, four Anglican dioceses, with the approval of their province, are to embark."

For 25 years the churches in South India have been moving towards union very slowly but almost irresistibly. Faced with the enormous task of winning India for Christianity the Church has been compelled to close its own ranks, but far more important than that is the overpowering belief that this union is part of the purpose of God for India.

Through these years of conference and consultation many contentious points of faith and order have been happily overcome, and all sections of the churches have made sacrifices towards the great end of union.

The position now is that the Anglican dioceses have voted in favour of union, and also the South India Provincial Synod of the Methodist Church in India. It remains for the third party in the union, the South India United Church, to make up its mind. Upon their decision, to be given before September, 1946, may rest one of the greatest ventures of faith in the history of Christianity, and a challenge to the Christian church everywhere.

THE GENTLE LARK

IN a wide, flat field at a military training centre in Yorkshire soldiers practised every day firing explosive shells from their mortars. At the end of each day's firing an officer would inspect a small wired enclosure and report to his commander: "She's all right."

He was referring to a devoted little skylark who was sitting on four eggs, and who, in spite of the roar and percussion of explosions round her all day long, refused to leave her nest.

Instructions were issued that none of the mortar shells must fall within 100 yards of the enclosure.

We hope that cessation of hostilities on the home front has come to her as to the rest of us.

THE EDITOR'S TABLE

The Bevin Boys

THE ballot for young mine workers has been suspended. It had been in operation for sixteen months, during which time nearly 20,000 boys were directed to the coal mines. We are sure that some good will come from their experiences.

The Bevin plan brought to many boys an understanding of the conditions which coalmining involves and, therefore, some sympathy with those for whom it is their normal livelihood. Furthermore, it may have opened the way of young men outside the miners' families into the coalmining industry with a view to graduating, after practical experience, to its higher technical positions.

Brains, as well as sinew, are required for the betterment of the coalmining industry. Perhaps some of the Bevin boys who were required to hack in the galleries underground will see in the industry, when the necessary improvements have been put in hand, an opportunity of a career worth while, with the higher positions as their target.

A Gold Medal For Mr Churchill

HONOURS innumerable have rightly been showered on Mr Churchill; but that fact will not lessen his pride in his Albert Gold Medal which the Royal Society of Arts is awarding him this year.

The Society's highest honour, it is conferred for "distinguished merit in promoting arts, manufactures, and commerce"; and in all the years since the medal was first struck in 1864 no one has deserved it more than our valiant Prime Minister, who thus joins a distinguished company which includes President Roosevelt, General Smuts, Louis Pasteur, and Madame Curie.

CARRY ON

ARTHUR MEE

(Died May 27, 1943)

HE bore God's likeness in his face.

All through Life's journey we can trace That he walked, and talked with Him.

With laughter and with love for all mankind,

His wild soul was a-brim; Friend of all birds and flowers and trees,

And any little child—

O, he was one with these!

Egbert Sandford

Man's Striving

IT is not to taste sweet things, but to do noble and true things, and vindicate himself under God's heaven as a God-made man, that the poorest son of Adam dimly longs. Show him the way of doing that, the dullest day-drudge kindles into a hero.

Carlyle

THE GENERAL

It will not be long now before the people of this country are called upon to elect a new Parliament. The present House of Commons was elected as far back as 1935, and it is only right that the Parliament of Peace should be thoroughly representative of the people.

The C.N. has no political label, but, we hope that, whatever the Government of our beloved country may be, they will pursue the inflexible purpose for which we fought and gave our all. Britain and the British Commonwealth of Nations are bright stars in the world's firmament, and they must be

Success of the

LAST year 30,000 offenders against the law in England and Wales were put on probation and, of these, two out of three will probably remain law-abiding citizens for the rest of their lives. For that is the proportion of probationers who run straight in after years, said the Earl of Munster, addressing the National Association of Probation Officers recently.

This is not only a wonderful tribute to the work of the probation officers, but also to the

Under the E

ELEVEN HUNDRED drawings of British birds sold for £2700. Something to make a song about.

HOUSEWIVES will only get 1 lb of sugar for jam making. But they can enjoy the fruits of victory without any.

EARLY vegetables may be obtained in the West End. By early shoppers.

HOLIDAY trains are packed. What in?

PETER WAN KN



If a new column its rep

Better

OF all the appearances of the human countenance, me thinks a smile is the most extraordinary. It plays with a surprising agreeableness in the eye, breaks out with the brightest distinction, and sits like a glory upon the countenance. What sun is there within us that shoots his rays with so sudden a vigour! To see, the soul flash in the face

VOYAGE OF

Books, books; books!

I had found the secret of a garret room Piled high with cases in my father's name:

Piled high, packed large—where, creeping in and out [past, Among the giant fossils of my Like some small nimble mouse between the ribs

Of a mastodon, I nibbled here and there

At this or that box, pulling through the gap,

IL ELECTION

kept for ever bright. Good fellowship throughout the world, the spirit of helping our neighbour, love of freedom and beauty, enterprise and adventure, the cultivation of good health and strong minds and limbs—these are some of the things which we hope that the next Parliament will have uppermost in their thoughts.

We hope, too, that the new Parliament will have among its members a good measure of men and women from the Services. They, more than any, made the Great Day possible. They are entitled to a big voice in guiding the nation's future.

Probation System

probation system. By means of this humane system persons who have committed a crime—often young people or first offenders—may, at the discretion of a magistrate, be "bound over to be of good behaviour" for a certain period not exceeding three years.

During this time the offender, old or young, is under the watchful yet friendly care of a probation officer who does all he can to help his charge to keep on the straight path:

Editor's Table

PUCK
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spaper's
support
itation?

THE modern father rarely puts his foot down. Would rather put his feet up.

NEARLY 5000 acres of land are reported to have come into the market. Must have filled it.

WHAT can be made from goat's milk? asks a correspondent. He ought to get a good butter.

MOST budding authors hope to write a book. And try to get a novel theme.

to Smile

at this rate, one would think would convert an atheist. By the way, we may observe that smiles are much more becoming than frowns. This seems a natural encouragement to good humour; so much as to say, if people have a mind to be handsome, they must not be peevish and untoward.

Jeremy Taylor

DISCOVERY

In heats of terror, haste, victorious joy,
The first book first. And how I felt it beat
Under my pillow, in the morning's dark,
An hour before the sun would let me read!
My books!

At last, because the time was ripe,
I chanced upon the poets.

E. B. Browning

The Petrol Ration

THE basic petrol ration for motorists is about to be reinstated—sufficient for a car to travel 120 miles in a month. Further, and even more important, bus services, retail delivery services, taxicabs, private car hire services, and motor boats are also to obtain bigger supplies of petrol.

We earnestly hope that a renewal of anything like the pre-war surge of motor traffic on the roads of Britain will not be permitted until full arrangements can be made to ensure a reasonable degree of safety, particularly as regards the roads themselves. They are badly worn, and in many other respects dangerous for an increasing volume of cars, motor cycles, lorries, and vans.

The public safety—and especially the safety of children—must come before the pursuit of pleasure, and even before processions of motor vehicles on business.

A Chance For Our Art Galleries

THE National Gallery has been busy getting its house in order and attending to its treasures now back from their safe storage in caves in South Wales. But it has not been too busy to stage an exhibition of pictures acquired by the Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool, during the past ten years.

This exhibition has enabled many Londoners, and visitors to London, to see for the first time many of the rare art treasures of the great northern city, notably works of some of our most distinguished British painters, past and present. The idea would seem to be one well worth imitation.

Why not let Liverpool, and Leeds, and Glasgow, and Birmingham, see some of the masterpieces of the National Gallery? Surely all our great cities would like to join in a great mutual loaning!

These Scenes of Peace

COME to these scenes of peace
Where, to rivers murmuring,
The sweet birds all the summer sing;

Where cares, and toil, and sadness cease!

Stranger, does thy heart deplore
Friends whom thou wilt see no more?

Does thy wounded spirit prove
Pangs of hopeless, severed love?
Thee, the stream that gushes clear,

Thee, the birds that carol near,
Shall soothe, as silent dost thou lie

And dream of their wild lullaby;
Come to bless these scenes of peace,

Where cares, and toil, and sadness cease.

William Lisle Bowles

AN ENDLESS TASK

HE who lies knows not what a task he undertakes, for he must invent a thousand other lies to uphold the first.

Pope

A Fine British Gentleman

ERIC LIDDELL, an Olympic champion of 1924, has died in a Japanese internment camp, and by his death Britain has lost a fine gentleman, China a great servant, and Scotland a notable athlete.

Liddell, who was an Edinburgh boy, startled the world in 1924 by his brilliant record when he won the 400 metres race in Paris. A recent writer called him the "ugliest runner who ever won an Olympic championship." But his immense stride, his arms clawing the air as if they were paddling him to victory, carried him in front of the more graceful runners and placed him among the great athletes of our time.

For several seasons Scotland automatically chose Liddell for her Rugby football team, always placing him at wing three-quarter, where his lightning speed often won the match.

Eric Liddell, however, will be remembered not only as a famous athlete, but as a fine gentleman. He was modest, living in extreme simplicity even at the height of his fame as an athlete, and no one who knew him was surprised when, in 1925, he went to Tientsin to join the staff of the London Missionary Society's great public school for boys, the Anglo-Chinese College, and later to serve in remote country towns on the North China Plain.

A Race For Life

On one occasion his turn of speed stood him in good stead. He was trying to get through from Tientsin to his home at Siacchang when the country districts were infested with bandits. Disguised as a pedlar he went down the Grand Canal on a boat, and then decided to strike out into the country. Somehow his disguise was detected, and Liddell had to run for it. How he ran! China saw the Olympic champion at his fleetest!

He will always be remembered, too, as the man who, in the Olympic Games of 1924, refused to run in races on Sundays. Liddell was not "narrow," nor was he stubborn. He just believed that there were time and place for all things, and that athletics could wait for Monday, Sunday being a day of worship.

For the last four years Liddell had been interned in the market town of Weihsien in North China. The cause of his death is not known. But we may be sure that, whatever circumstances Liddell had to face, he met them in the spirit of the fine gentleman that he was.

BRITISH OVERSEAS AIRWAYS

THE British Overseas Airways Corporation, working under the Air Ministry, and transporting by air official passengers, has proved a great wartime organisation. It began its operations in April, 1940, and since then it has carried more than 271,000 important passengers on urgent journeys in connection with the war effort. Its fleet today is more than double what it was in 1940 and consists of 150 aircraft, including 42 flying boats.

Every day now the total mileage flown by its planes is more than twice the distance round the world.

NATIONAL PARKS

A PROJECT dear to the hearts of all who love our beautiful countryside has taken a great forward stride with the publication of the Government White Paper on National Parks in England and Wales.

This report (Stationery Office, 1s), now presented to Parliament by the Minister of Town and Country Planning, is the work of Mr John Dower, A.R.I.B.A. It is published for information and as a basis for discussion; and it deals comprehensively with the subject and its problems.

National Parks akin to those in the United States, Canada, and South Africa are obviously out of the question in this little, much-cultivated island; and as applied to Great Britain a National Park is defined as an extensive area of beautiful and relatively wild country in which, for the nation's benefit, the characteristic landscape beauty is strictly preserved, access and facilities for public open-air enjoyment are amply provided, wild life and buildings and places of architectural and historic interest are suitably protected, while established farming use is effectively maintained.

Suitable Countryside

The ideal country for National Parks is, of course, the relatively wild tracts of mountain and moor, heath and down, forest and rocky coast, such as cover about one-fifth of England and Wales, or about 12,000 out of 58,000 square miles. When all necessary deductions have been made the potential area available amounts to some 8,000 square miles—much more than is required for the initial establishment of the parks, although it is considered that the whole should be safeguarded.

With all the essential facts in mind, Mr Dower suggests the following ten areas which he considers most suitable and desirable as our first National Parks. Here they are, with their approximate areas in square miles: Lake District, 860; Snowdonia, 320; Dartmoor, 310; Peak District and Dovedale, 530; Pembroke Coast, 100; Cornish Coast (selected parts, including Land's End, the Lizard, and a stretch northward from Padstow Bay), 180; Craven Pennines (Wharfe, Aire, and Ribbles), 380; Black Mountains and Brecon Beacons, 470; Exmoor and North Devon Coast, 280; and the Roman Wall,

170. Here is a choice of some 3,600 square miles of our lovely land, embracing some of its most rugged, most beautiful, and least spoiled areas; and it is, surely, a choice few will quarrel with.

A second list cites 12 areas desirable as reserves for future National Parks, including the Norfolk Broads, the North Yorkshire Moors, the Dorset Coast and Heaths, and the Berkshire and Marlborough Downs; and a third list is of more than 30 areas which are not suggested as National Parks but which have special amenity value and should be appropriately safeguarded.

The many other aspects of the question of National Parks are dealt with in this Report, such as landscape preservation and improvement, maintenance of farming, recreation facilities, and conservation of wild life.

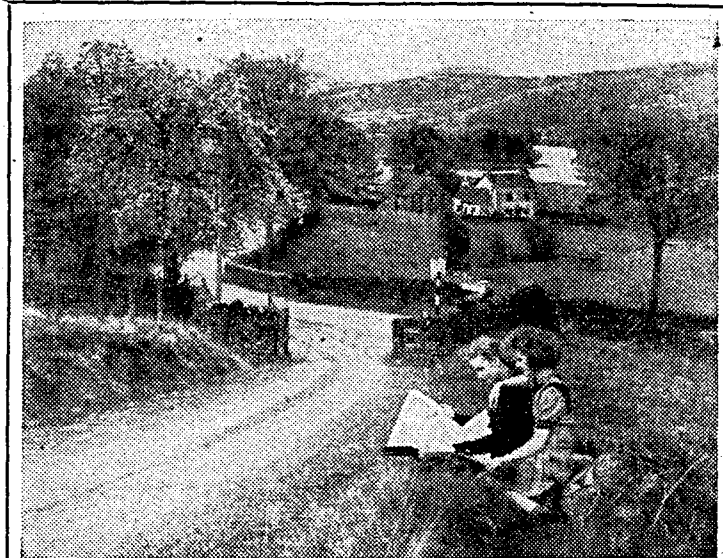
Finally, on the question of financial cost, the author makes no specific proposals; but he does make it clear that he thinks (and none will disagree) that "If National Parks are provided for the nation they should clearly be provided by the nation. Their distinct cost should be met from national funds."

Mr Dower has worthily acquitted himself of a worthy task, and it now remains for the whole question to be debated in the council chambers of State. We trust that Parliament in due course will make worthy decisions, mindful of a great people that has endured much in war, and in peace is longing for a fuller, richer share in the glorious heritage that is England.

Farm Hostel

YOUTH Hostellers who want a farming holiday this year are advised to apply to Warden Rutter, who runs Turk's Head Farm Youth Hostel at High Halden in Kent.

Dozens of different jobs are waiting to be done—milking in the morning, and hedging, hoeing, harvesting, and haymaking during the day. In the evening there are talks and discussions, or visits to neighbouring farms. Though no payment is made members often have the privilege of choosing their job for the day, and there is the friendly Hostel atmosphere all the time.



THIS ENGLAND

At Esthwaite in the Lake District, near Hawkshead

Germany's Half-English Seaport

SPECIALLY fitting is it that Hamburg, the biggest German city taken by the British Army, should become a seat of administration for British-occupied Germany; for the people of the Reich, in former, happier days, were prone to talk of Hamburg's "halb-englisches leben"—half-English life.

Hamburgers were proud of this claim. They would frankly admit that there was something in the air of Hamburg which suggested England—a special atmosphere of freedom, unconventionality, and easy-going good nature, a tolerance truly British.

True, Hamburg has been, by law and one might say by custom, a "free city" for centuries. Founded by Charlemagne in 808, it secured special privileges from the German Emperor (not a Prussian autocrat then, but the head of numerous and often warring Germanic States) at the end of the 12th century.

But its greatness began half a century later, when, with its famous neighbour, Luebeck, it founded the Hanseatic League, that powerful chain of seaports which spread its tentacles all over Europe, and forced its way up the Thames. English monarchs had already shown much favour to these "Easterlings," who lent them money for their wars, and towards the end of the 15th century the Steelyard was built in the heart of the growing port of London.

Close to where the C.N. offices now stand, and on a wide stretch of the riverside round about, the Hansa Merchants of the Steelyard established themselves, rich and powerful and privileged beyond English law, for they secured laws of their own,

much to the disgust of patriotic Londoners, and kept them.

Merchants from Cologne, which sent the first Easterlings to London, were supreme in the Steelyard. But there were Hamburgers and others as well. It took the doughty Queen Elizabeth to make an end of an impudent German "reign" of over a century in London, Boston, Hull, York, and other English towns and banish the Steelyard merchants from this country.

But the Hansa League continued to flourish for quite a time, for its ships formed a fighting navy as well as a powerful mercantile marine. And even when the League began to decline, Hamburg followed a policy of conciliation which saved her position, and with the support of Bremen and Luebeck managed to revive the League in the 17th century.

Thereafter, despite checks and disasters, Hamburg flourished steadily, enjoying many periods of wide independence when there was little freedom elsewhere in Germany. At the end of the last war, when her population had passed the million mark, she secured a new State independence, and set the pace for rapid reconstruction of her battered fortunes.

Doubtless in due season she will rise again to use her restored fortunes to better purpose.

OUR SURE SHIELD

THERE were many households which throughout the war against Germany never sat down to breakfast without returning thanks to God for the British Navy. To our Navy and to our unconquerable Mercantile Marine we owed our safety and the bulk of the food that kept us and our military forces alive.

The price paid has been high. Up to the close of the war in Europe we had lost 354 major naval ships. These figures much exceed the losses we incurred at sea during the 1914-18 war.

A Harder Fight

Our Navy had a longer and harder fight this time than last. In the earlier conflict we had the fleets of Italy, France, and Japan always on our side, while that of the United States was active in the later stages. This time, however, when Italy fought it was, until our conquest, on the side of Germany, while Japan was, and continues, our enemy.

After the fall of France in 1940 many of her ships were scuttled in order to keep them from being employed against us, but some, in other ports, had to be fought by our own craft to prevent them from becoming employed by Germany or her Vichy French collaborators. Had the French Navy been added, with the Italian, to the German sea forces, we should have been in dire peril in the Mediterranean, and the combined fleets of the enemy might have dared to challenge our supremacy in every sea.

But though scarred, and with grievous losses recorded, the British Navy emerges once more triumphant, ready for the completion of its war against Japan, side by side with the mighty United States Fleet. How different is the fate of Germany! For the second time in 27 years she has lost her entire navy, a fate never before experienced by any Sea Power.

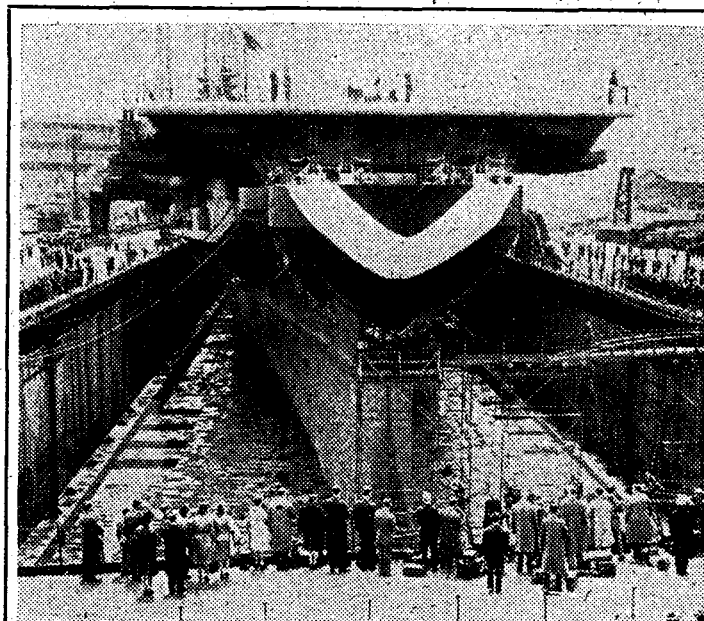
Victory Diamond

THE Imperial Institute has announced that a gem diamond weighing 770 carats and as big as a hen's egg was found in Sierra Leone last January.

The largest diamond of gem quality in the world today, it has been flown to Britain, and it has been stated by an authority that when cut its value will probably be about £500,000.

It weighs some 44 carats more than the President Vargas diamond found in Brazil in 1938 and the Jonker found in the Transvaal in 1934; and while, according to legend, one or two ancient Indian stones may have been bigger, so far as definite records go this new diamond has only been exceeded in size by the Cullinan and the Excelsior, both of which came from South African pipe mines.

The Sierra Leone diamond yield has developed with great rapidity since working began in 1932, its annual output in recent years having been reckoned at about £1,000,000. It is only two years since two other big diamonds, weighing 350 and 250 carats, were found in the same workings.



The Franklin D. Roosevelt

America's new 45,000-ton aircraft-carrier is seen here receiving her name before being launched. The christening ceremony was carried out on the tall stand below the mighty warship's flag-draped bow.

BOMBS ON THE BRITISH MUSEUM

THOSE who have visited the British Museum in Bloomsbury, London, will remember the central dome over the Reading Room—a prominent London landmark. During the blitz on London, this dome received a direct hit from an oil-bomb. By a miracle, however, not very much damage was done.

Other parts of this national treasure house, however, were damaged more or less seriously.

In September, 1940, an H.E. bomb fell on the King Edward VII building, passed through the roof and floor of the Print Room and landed on the floor below, but did not explode. Five days later, a much heavier bomb descended through the same hole in the floor and that did not explode, either.

In the same month another H.E. bomb destroyed hundreds of valuable books in the King's Library, and a few weeks later, the new Parthenon Gallery (not yet opened to the public) was hit and received much damage.

Fire bombs destroyed ten of the upper galleries, including a number of the Greek and Roman Rooms and the Coin and Medal Room. Fortunately, most of the exhibits in these galleries had been removed to safety.

Perhaps the worst incident was in May, 1941, when fire bombs destroyed 150,000 volumes, mostly on medicine, law, archaeology, and the arts. Some of these were a hundred years old. The Museum Trustees, however, are hoping to be able to replace these precious books.

The British Museum has a Newspaper Repository at Colindale, in Middlesex. Here volumes and files of old newspapers were preserved—a collection which is probably irreplaceable. This treasure house of old newspapers received a direct hit, and most of the contents were destroyed.

It will be some time before the British Museum can be repaired, restocked, and set on its peacetime course again. Any scars that remain will be bits of history, like its ancient contents.

Advances in domestic equipment that have been made even during the war arrest one's attention in some of the sections. For instance, in the gas-working kitchen there is an extractor fan set high up in the wall to remove steam and cooking odours—a great boon in a small house when cabbage is being boiled. The children's room, for day and night use, has two comfortable bunks, the upper one reached by a short ladder.

The exhibition will remain open at the National Gallery until June 25, after which it is to tour the provinces.

These specimen rooms show a suggested bachelor's bed-sitting-

BEDTIME CORNER

Adventure For Hugh

HUGH sat in the hammock in the garden until he had finished the book. It was an exciting tale—all about a boy who ran away and got taken to sea as a stowaway.

That night he dreamed that he was having all the



adventures he had been reading about.

For days after that he thought of nothing but the little stowaway till at last he made up his mind to run away himself.

It was dark when he started, and angry black clouds made everything look gloomy. Not far from where he lived was a river, and

Hugh meant to get on board one of the boats that he had seen lying by.

But long before he got there it started to rain heavily, and he began to feel very cold and wretched. To make matters worse, a great dog ran out of a garden and came bounding up to him.

It terrified Hugh, who shrieked and ran on. The dog barked and ran after him.

"Prince! Come here, sir!" called a man's stern voice, and at once the dog stopped. Hugh stopped, too, shaking from head to foot.

"Don't be afraid," said the man. "He won't hurt you. But how wet you are! And where are you going all by yourself on such a night?"

Hugh's bravery suddenly gave way, and with tears streaming down his cheeks he blurted out his story.

"Well, come indoors with me," said his new friend kindly, "and when you are a bit drier I will take you home."

And that is what he did, but it was the last time that Hugh tried to run away to sea, for he decided that such adventures were much more exciting to read about than to try to copy.

THE SECOND DEATH OF A NAVY

THE most imposing spectacle at the end of the First Great War was the surrender of the German Fleet to Admiral Beatty off the Firth of Forth. The fate of Hitler's Navy has been less imposing and more ignominious, but the results correspond. The whole of Germany's second navy, like her first, has been destroyed or passed with shame into British or Allied hands.

There is less of German ocean might afloat this time; a few cruisers such as the Prinz Eugen—nothing bigger; with destroyers, E-boats, minesweepers, and, of course, many U-boats. The rest lie broken on the seabed. They fought no great fleet actions.

The capital ships generally hugged home ports and waters, sailing out in circumstances of advantage to attack, with the aid of land-based aircraft, convoys labouring through the Arctic night and its blinding blizzards, on the perilous way to Russia. Or, like the Deutschland which, before being renamed the Luetzow, sank the superbly-fought British armed merchantman, the Rawalpindi, they acted as commerce-raiders. Such was the Graf von Spee, the formidable 10,000-ton battleship which three audacious little British cruisers, outgunned and outranged, drove fleeing into the River Plate, there, by Hitler's wireless orders, to be ingloriously scuttled. That embattled floating stronghold, the 45,000-ton battleship Bismarck, caused us more trouble, for she sank the Hood and damaged the ill-fated Prince of Wales before being sent to the bottom in May, 1941.

The Bismarck was followed to destruction by the Admiral Scheer, 10,000 tons, the Scharnhorst, 26,000 tons, the Tirpitz, 45,000 tons, the Gneisenau, 26,000 tons, until all the German capital

ships had ceased to exist. There remained, of course, the swift E-boats to harry us and the multiplying submarines to challenge us. Hunting, during a destructive phase, in packs, the submarines inflicted upon us terrible losses until our convoy escorts were reinforced by far-ranging aeroplanes, seaplanes, and carrier-borne aircraft. This defensive combination drove the original U-boats from the seas, but German ingenuity, ever fertile in evil contrivance, perfected an invention enabling U-boats while submerged to draw in constant supplies of air, and thus remain under water almost continuously for many weeks.

In addition, the Germans produced swarms of midget submarines, some one-man craft, some with a crew of two, all carrying either torpedoes or mines. Hundreds of U-boats, either complete or under construction, were seized by our forces in German harbours, while those on the high seas made their way, flying the black flag of surrender, to British and Allied harbours.

Never was sea warfare conducted with barbarity more soulless than by the crews of these German submarines.

But all is now ended: the last German torpedo has been discharged, the last cruelty perpetrated. Conquered and contemptible, the brutal German navy has for the second time been driven off the seas.

No Yokels Today

ON the last Saturday of the war in Europe nearly three hundred men and women met together in the Corn Exchange at Maidstone. They were delegates from 125 branches of the National Union of Agricultural Workers in Kent, and they had met together to consider the difficulties of their calling and the aims of their union.

Looking round them as they listened to the speakers, an old reader of the CN could but marvel at the change which has taken place in the past twenty years. No yokels, these men and women. Higher wages had meant better clothes, in spite of rationing. A better standard of living has given the workers of the land more confidence in their value to society. It may well be that service in the Home Guard and in Civil Defence has played its part in making these "farm labourers" keener and more alert.

These brown-faced men represented ten thousand workers who produced our food through the war years, and who will go on growing our crops and tending the flocks long after other "war workers" have resumed peacetime occupations. It was typical, perhaps, that the biggest laughs at the rally were raised by "rustic" jokes, but that the loudest applause came when a speaker said that their main aim must be "a place in society on a level with other skilled workers."

No, these men and women are very different from their forbears. They know that they have earned recognition as skilled workers and valued members of our society.

BRITAIN'S FUTURE AIRMEN

THE Air Training Corps, which has done such magnificent work in preparing boys to be airmen, recently held in London a great rally attended by 2000 representatives from all parts of the country.

The cadets spent four days in London and lived in a camp specially organised for them and their officers in the deep shelter at Camden Town. The programme of the rally included a football match played at Tottenham between English and Scottish cadets, which the English lads won by eight goals to nil. On the Sunday of the rally there was a thanksgiving service, after which a mass parade was held in Hyde Park, where a big crowd watched the cadets march past Air Marshal Sir Roderic Hill. On the Monday evening the cadets held the A.T.C. Boxing Championship at the Albert Hall.

The war effort of these young men in learning to man Britain's planes and aerodromes deserves the thanks of the whole nation, and it is encouraging to know that the A.T.C. is to continue its vital function in peacetime, for in a message to the cadets, read at their Hyde Park parade, Marshal of the R.A.F. Sir Charles Portal, said: "The Air Training Corps will continue after the war and will be the main channel of entry into the Royal Air Force."

BLAZING THE ARCTIC SKYWAYS

LAST year we rejoiced that the great R.A.F. Lancaster, Aries, had made a triumphant journey round the world. Now she has been on another mission, entirely scientific, charged with romantic possibilities for the world's future airways.

With Wing Commander McKinley in charge, she has been exploring the air over the North Pole, and the North Magnetic Pole, there seeking knowledge as to the behaviour of compasses and engines and other equipment in Arctic regions of radiolocation, and all that is to be gleaned concerning magnetic and weather conditions.

Although modern, aerial investigation of Polar mysteries has already been attended by experiences so tragically thrilling as to fire the hearts of heroic men, as challenging always does. It began 48 years ago when Salomon André, of Sweden, with two companions, sailed in a balloon from Spitsbergen, intent on reaching the North Pole.

Heart-Stirring Diaries

Thirty-three silent years elapsed, then, in August, 1930, on the pitiless coast of barren White Island, the bodies of the three were discovered, with the sledge and the canvas boat they had used after leaving the balloon, with the photographs they had taken, and with André's heart-stirring diaries.

Meanwhile, ignorant of the fate of the lost men, others were unconsciously answering the question in André's diary, in which he wondered if they, the first men to cleave the Arctic skies, would have successors. In 1925 Roald Amundsen, the Norwegian, who in 1911 had been the first to reach the South Pole, 33 days before Captain Scott, took wing from Spitsbergen. With Lincoln Ellsworth he set out in two tiny aeroplanes for the Pole. The planes crashed on the ice, and for 25 days were frozen in. Only one of the planes could now fly, but in this Amundsen and his daring comrades regained civilisation. Undaunted, Amundsen, supported by Ellsworth and an Italian, General Nobile, made a second attempt on the North Pole. This he reached by airship on May 12, 1926. He had, however, been anticipated, three days earlier, by the American, Admiral R. E. Byrd, who, flying in an aeroplane, had circled the Pole 13 times.

Afterwards, in 1928, came the Italian airship expedition of General Nobile, a terrible enterprise, in which the airship, hitting the ground at 60 miles an hour, threw out the leader and eight others, all badly injured, then rose again and carried off the rest of the crew, who were never afterwards seen or heard of. Nobile managed to wireless to the outer world. Amundsen, who had quarrelled with Nobile, hearing of the extremity of his rival, nobly set out by aeroplane, with four other chivalrous souls, to seek him. Neither Amundsen nor his companions were ever seen again.

Knots For the RAF

IN future the speed of R.A.F. planes will not be measured at so many miles per hour, but at so many knots, in the same way as the Navy measures the speed of ships. The knot is in itself a measurement of speed, for it signifies how many nautical miles an hour a ship travels. A nautical mile is 1.1515 land miles, or about a mile and 264 yards.

The story of man's conquest of the Arctic was continued in May, 1937, when Russia proclaimed that she had annexed the North Pole! She had long prepared successive bases, and publicly announced on May 22 of that year that M. Vodopyanoff, an expert Arctic airman, accompanied by Professor Otto Schmidt, head of Soviet Arctic explorations, and four other scientists, had flown from Russian-occupied Prince Rudolph Island, had circled the Pole, and dropped on it Russian flags. The scientists established themselves on a great ice floe.

Other planes followed, bearing them supplies and scientific equipment, so that they could spend a year in scientific investigation. The Russian scientists so quickly got to work that in the nine o'clock bulletin of May 22, 1937, the B.B.C. were able to broadcast the first weather report from the North Pole!

The Aries expedition, which has been undertaken by the Empire Air Navigation School, should yield scientific knowledge of vital importance for the airways of the future. For the Arctic provides the short route between cities of the Old World and the New.

Simple Recipe for Summer Colds

Summer Colds are hard to shift once they get a hold. Here's a recipe which has grown so popular that practically every chemist keeps it made up and ready for use. A dose or two at the beginning will nip a cold in the bud, before it has a chance to develop.

It's the "Parmint" recipe, consisting of 12 different healing, soothing medicaments, and it's really marvellous how quickly it ends that worrying cough which is the first sign of trouble. Even if the cold or cough has got quite a hold, a few doses of Parmint Syrup will soon put things right. Parmint Syrup has one great advantage. Children take it readily. They like its taste.

Be wise. Get a bottle of Parmint Syrup from your chemist to-day and keep it handy. 1/5 the bottle, including tax.

NOTE.—If through shortage of bottles your chemist is out of Parmint Syrup, get a 3/11 bottle of Parmint Concentrated Essences and make up a big supply yourself.

THE NATION'S GREATEST WEALTH

is its children, and we must see to it they suffer as little as possible. We are giving Outings to as many as possible this summer to our playing fields at Lambourne End, away from Stepney's Sordid Streets. Will you help us, please? Funds are most urgently needed. Address: The Rev. RONALD F. W. BOLLOM, Supt., THE EAST END MISSION (Founded 1885), Bromley Street, Commercial Road, Stepney, E.1.

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For over a century Gillott's have made the finest quality and the widest range of drawing pens in the world... the favourites of famous artists. At present supplies may be limited, but the excellence persists.

By appointment to the late King George V.

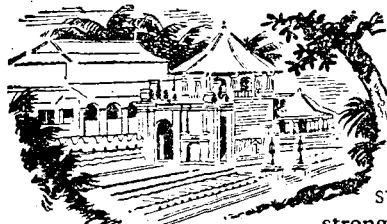
Gillott's Pens

JOSEPH GILLOTT & SONS LTD. VICTORIA WORKS - BIRMINGHAM

ROUND THE WORLD WITH BSA

No. 11

CEYLON



Dalada Maligawa, the Temple of the Tooth, stands in Kandy, mountain stronghold of the last Sinhalese

Kings—a sanctuary for all the Buddhist pilgrims of the world. For, in this Temple, behind many padlocked doors, is a casket which contains the Holy Tooth of Buddha! Legend says that, in 1560, the Portuguese stormed the Temple, and burnt the Holy Tooth, yet millions of faithful Buddhists believe that the Portuguese merely burnt a replica—and not the Holy Tooth itself, which, they say, is indestructible!

Yes, Ceylon is a strange country, with many strange things to see—but you would find familiar sights as well, for instance, B.S.A. bicycles, which are just as popular in Ceylon as they are here at home. You have wanted one for a long time? Ask your parents to see your local dealer. B.S.A. Bicycles are scarce, but he'll do his best to help you.



BSA
THE BICYCLE YOU CAN'T BEAT!

B.S.A. Cycles Ltd., Birmingham, 11.

The BRAN TUB

Fun For the Fishes



BROTHER ADOLPHUS fancies himself mightily as a fisherman and will not have Jacko and Chimp in his punt. "You would only get in my way," he says crossly. "You know nothing about fishing." So, later, the two climb quietly into a tree and shoot peas at him. "Goodness, a hailstorm in June!" exclaims Adolphus, and puts up his umbrella. Hidden under it he cannot see that even the fishes are laughing at him.

BIRD CROWDS

A BEVY of Larks; a building of Rooks; a charm of Goldfinches; a congregation of Plovers; a dopping of Sheldrakes; a fall of Woodcock; a herd of Curlews and Swans; a murmuration of Starlings; a muster of Peacocks; a nide of Pheasants; a siege of Bitterns and Herons; a wisp of Snipe.

What the Trees Give Us

THE Date Palm, though we know it here chiefly for its dried fruit, has many uses.

The wood of the trunk makes fences and furniture, the leaves supply thatch; their stalks make fuel, and the fibres at their base are used for cordage, baskets, and other wickerwork.

NO COMPARISON

A SAILOR who roiled on the lake And tried bouncing waves there to make, Cried "Me for the briny, Big billows and shiny, These ripples don't give me a shake."

Riddles About Horses

WHAT is the difference between a mare and an egg. One is a she gee-gee and the other is an e-g-g.

Why is a carthorse like a kind person? Because they both stop at the sound of woe.

How many legs has a horse? Six, fore legs in front and two behind.

Why is a carthorse never hungry? Because he always has a bit in his mouth.

Luxury

LUCKY Lola licked large lollipops from Lena's loaded lollipop shop in lovely luscious laps.

Strange Coincidence

A CHURCH in Crooked Lane, London, had a minister whose name was Dr Crookshanks. One of his sermons, delivered in the reign of William III, was on the text, Every Crooked Path Shall be made Straight. In due course this sermon was printed and published, and when it appeared, the name of the publisher was followed by the address, At the Crooked Billet.

Always Together

Black: Do you know Hook?
White: My dear chap, Hook and I are old associates.

Other Worlds

IN the morning Mars and Venus are in the south-east. In the evening Saturn is in the west and Jupiter is in the south. The picture shows the Moon as it may be seen at 7 a.m. DBST on Saturday, June 2.

Children's Hour

Here are details of the BBC programmes for Wednesday, May 30, to Tuesday, June 5.

WEDNESDAY, 5.20 The Conversion of Mr Growser, another Toy-town story by S. G. Hulme Beaman. 5.55 Prayers.

THURSDAY, 5.20 The Smugglers of Briton Ferry, by Harry Green. A play produced by Lorraine Jameson.

FRIDAY, 5.20 Beau Brocade: by Baroness Orczy, adapted by Joan Littlewood. Part 4—At the Royal George. Produced by Nan Macdonald.

SATURDAY, 5.20 Some Pets, Usual and Not-so-Usual, by Frances Bellerby, read by Mary O'Farrell. 5.35 Piano solos. 5.45 Athletics: by F. N. S. Creek, the Sports Coach.

SUNDAY, 5.20 The Great Lord Shaftesbury, a play by Wilfred Grantham, produced by May E. Jenkin.

MONDAY, 5.20 A Story, and the Irish Rhythms Orchestra. 5.45 Adventures Among Rare Moths, by L. Hugh Newman.

TUESDAY, 5.30 Country Magazine: Banffshire. Introduced by Alexander Keith, edited by Francis Dillon, and produced by Elizabeth Adair; followed by Young Artists.

FARMER GRAY EXPLAINS

The Angry Nightingale. "Imagination," said Don scornfully.

"I tell you I heard it plainly," replied Ann, his young sister; "you come with me and see."

Together the two children entered the little wood. Suddenly the silence was broken by a "Purr, purr, purr"; the sound was repeated at intervals. They looked around, but could see nothing to account for the noise.

"No, Ann," chuckled Farmer Gray, hearing of the mystery. "No-one is using a sewing-machine in the wood. You were near a Nightingale's nest; that is the sound they make when danger threatens."

BIG BUSINESS

BOASTING of the business done by his firm, a clerk declared that over £300 a year was paid for ink alone.

"That's nothing!" said a clerk from a rival concern. "We save £100 a month merely by not dotting the i's or crossing the t's."

The Swan's Dinner-Gong

THE swans on the moat of the Bishop's Palace at Wells have a clever habit of ringing a bell for their meals, which are given to them near the drawbridge.

Each generation of birds learns the trick from the former, though the custom was nearly brought to an abrupt end two years ago when the male of the only remaining pair suddenly died.

But a lonely swan who had been blinded and had lost his mate in an air raid was brought from the canal at Bath, and the young birds since hatched soon learned the knack of ringing.

WIDE AWAKE

"WHICH is the way to Windsor, Tom?" inquired the hiker.

"How did you know my name was Tom?" countered the country yokel.

"Oh, I'm a conjurer and know lots of things that would surprise you!"

"Then you don't need me to show you the way to Windsor."

Facts About Siam

SOMETIMES known as Thailand, it is a kingdom in the South-East, of Asia between Burma and French Indo-China. Siam made a treaty with Japan and declared war on the Allies January 25, 1942, after the country had been taken over by the Japanese. The area of Siam is 200,148 square miles, nearly as big as France and more than twice as big as Great Britain. Population about 15,718,000. Principal religion, Buddhism. The country is mountainous in the north, flat in the south. Chief city and port, Bangkok, the name of which was changed after the Japanese occupation to Phetchabhin, population about 685,000. Siam's chief products (before the war) were tin, teak from the great forests of the north, rice, rubber, and wolfram.

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

Letter Juggling
A sentence

L	I	B	E	R	A	T	E
C	N	A	B	O	B	D	
O	C	T	O	W	A	R	D
B	A	C	O	N	S	A	Y
P	A	N	G	E	T		
H	E	N	R	A	D	I	O
O	R	D	E	R	A	L	
O	L	A	C	E	S	T	
P	R	E	T	E	N	C	E

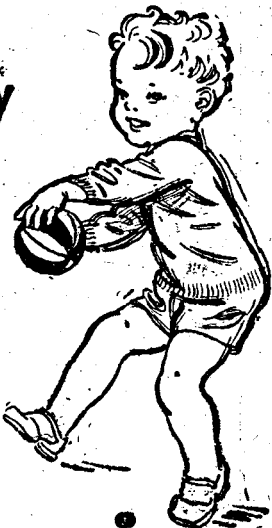
Simple Arithmetic

The old price was 4d a dozen, or 3 for a penny; the new price, 3d a dozen, or 4 for a penny.

Brian is always lively

His energy and spirits are amazing. Simply bubbling over with life. Keeps you "on the go."

But you would rather have him that way than peevish, cross and poorly! Mother certainly knows best when she gives an ailing child 'California Syrup of Figs.' When bilious, sick or constipated, this natural laxative quickly corrects upsets of the system, and the little one is soon "as right as ninepence."



"California Syrup of Figs"

Bermaline

"The Bread we all enjoy"

Baked by good Bakers everywhere

Enquiries to: MONTGOMERIE & CO. LTD. - IBROX - GLASGOW.

His teeth need YOUR care—

Mother, you can do something for your child for which he will thank you throughout his life. By taking proper care now you can ensure his having sound teeth when he grows up. Dentists advise the use of the one toothpaste containing 'Milk of Magnesia', which corrects acid-mouth—so often the cause of dental decay.

The toothpaste to ask for is Phillips' Dental Magnesia. Train your children to use it night and morning. They love its pleasant mild flavour. 1/1d. and 1/10½d.



* 'Milk of Magnesia' is the trade mark of Phillips' preparation of magnesia.